

## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the claims with the following rewritten listing:

1. (Currently Amended) Method for authenticating documents, comprising:  
~~feeding the document to a verification unit by means of an input unit, wherein the verification unit is provided for authenticating the document,~~  
~~authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;~~  
~~comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;~~  
~~determining a probability of authenticity of the document, and~~  
~~releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising:;~~  
~~accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria;~~  
~~rejecting the document as negatively authenticated when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria; and~~  
~~recording the document as an image and presenting the image to an operator when the document is rejected as negatively authenticated.~~  
~~wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods,~~
2. (Previously Presented) Method pursuant to claim 1, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.
3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) Method pursuant to claim 42, wherein the visual verification method is performed as a function of the value of the document.
6. (Currently Amended) Method pursuant to claim 42, wherein the visual verification method is performed as a function of authentication certainty.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) Device for authenticating a document, comprising:

at least two verification stations, each of which performs a different verification process for authentication of the document, and  
a computer unit for comparing results of the verification stations with verification specifications of the document; and  
a recording station for the document, the recording station being configured to provide an image and present the image to an operator when the document is authenticated negatively because a probability of authenticity does not meet predetermined criteria.